

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 02489 261031Z

53

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SSC-01 /025 W

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R 260715Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6508

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, HU

SUBJ: NEW MINISTER OF CULTURE IN HUNGARY

1. JULY 23 HUNGARIAN PRESS REPORTS APPOINTMENT JULY 22 OF DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE IMRE POZSAY AS MINISTER OF CULTURE REPLACING LASZLO ORBAN, "RELIEVED FROM HIS POST AT HIS OWN REQUEST DUE TO RETIREMENT". ORBAN HAS BEEN APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION BOARD.

2. BORN IN 1933 IN KONY COUNTY, POZSAY WAS EDUCATED AT LENIN INSTITUTE WHERE HE COMPLETED STUDIES IN HISTORY AND MARXISM-LENINISM IN 1957. A PARTY MEMBER SINCE 1950, HE WAS DIRECTOR OF BACS COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEE'S NIGHT UNIVERSITY PROGRAM IN MARXISM-LENINISM 1957-65. IN 1965 HE BECAME CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT OF AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA OF THE COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEE, LATER ITS IDEOLOGICAL SECRETARY. IN 1970 POZSAY BECAME CHIEF OF A SUB-DEPARTMENT OF AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, LATER DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF TARSADALMI SZEMLE, CENTRAL

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PAGE 02 BUDAPE 02489 261031Z

COMMITTEE'S IDEOLOGICAL PUBLICATION. HE WAS APPOINTED

DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE IN JULY 1975.

3. POZSAY IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED MOST CAPABLE, WIDELY RESPECTED, ENLIGHTENED AND BEST-LIKED PERSON AT MINISTRY OF CULTURE. HIS APPOINTMENT, IN OUR VIEW, ALTHOUGH BYPASSING MORE SENIOR PEOPLE AT MINISTRY, IS WELCOME SINCE IT SEEMS TO SIGNAL FORWARD-LOOKING LEADERSHIP AT MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND NOT RETRENCHMENT INTO CONSERVATISM.

MUDD

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